

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A data structure comprising:
5 at least one record including
a primary key data field,
an owner data field for indicating the owner of the
record,
a workplace context data field for storing data
10 indicating the context in which other data within the at least
one record is interpreted, and
at least one other data field for storing the other
data.
2. A system for managing a bill of materials comprising:
a data structure including
at least one record having
a primary key data field,
an owner data field for indicating the owner of
20 the record, the owner data field including data representative of
one of a plurality of owners, and
at least one other data field.
3. A system for managing a bill of materials comprising:
25 a database including
a single namespace; and
at least one record having
a primary key data field,
an owner data field for indicating the owner of
30 the record, the owner data field including data representative of
one of a plurality of owners, and
at least one other data field.